



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 356**

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 55

*Senate, April 1, 2008*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. SLOSSBERG of the 14th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONCERNING APPOINTMENTS TO THE LABOR  
DEPARTMENT BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-91 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 There shall be, in the Labor Department, a Board of Mediation and  
4 Arbitration, consisting of two panels of three members each. One  
5 member of each panel of said board shall represent employers of labor,  
6 one shall represent employees and one shall represent the public in  
7 general. No such public member shall have been the representative of  
8 any employer or employee in a labor dispute during the five years  
9 immediately preceding the year of his appointment. One of the public  
10 members of said board shall be the chairman. Each member  
11 representing employees shall be a member of a bona fide labor  
12 organization, which may be either a national or an independent  
13 organization, but said two board members shall not be members of the

14 same labor organization. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities  
15 may make recommendations to the Governor for appointment of  
16 members of the board representing employers. On or before July  
17 fifteenth in the odd-numbered years, the Governor shall appoint two  
18 members of said board to succeed the members whose terms expire.  
19 The term of office for the members of said board shall be six years. The  
20 members so appointed shall have power to complete any matter  
21 pending at the expiration of the terms for which they were appointed.  
22 The board shall choose a public member as deputy chairman to serve  
23 in case of the death, removal, incapacity or absence of the chairman.  
24 Any vacancy in the membership of said board shall be filled by the  
25 Governor for the unexpired portion of the term. Any member of the  
26 board may be removed by the Governor for cause or for the good of  
27 the service, but only after notice and public hearing upon charges  
28 preferred and subject to the right of appeal to the Superior Court. A  
29 vacancy in the membership for any cause shall be filled by the  
30 Governor within thirty days of the date of its occurrence.

31 Sec. 2. Section 31-92 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
32 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

33 Whenever conditions warrant, the Labor Commissioner or the  
34 chairman of the board shall request the Governor to appoint, and the  
35 governor shall have authority to appoint, one or more alternate  
36 members to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration in such numbers  
37 as may be necessary, in order that said board may render efficient  
38 service to employers and their employees whenever grievances or  
39 disputes arise. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities may  
40 make recommendations to the Labor Commissioner or chairman of the  
41 board for appointment of members of the board representing  
42 employers. An alternate member may be so appointed for a period of  
43 up to one year or until a replacement is appointed. Alternate members  
44 so appointed shall have power to complete any matter pending at the  
45 expiration of the terms for which they were appointed. Alternate labor  
46 members shall be members of a bona fide national or independent  
47 labor organization. Alternate members of the Board of Mediation and

48 Arbitration shall serve at any time when so delegated by the board and  
49 while so serving shall have all the powers of members of the board.  
50 Whenever an alternate member serves in place of a member of the  
51 board, he shall represent the same interest as the member in whose  
52 place he serves. Said board may, at its option, require alternate  
53 members to sit with it in the fulfillment of any function of the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	31-91
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	31-92

**LAB**      *Joint Favorable C/R*      GAE

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill specifies that the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) may make recommendations to the Governor and Labor Commissioner regarding appointments to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration, and has no fiscal impact.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 55*****AN ACT CONCERNING APPOINTMENTS TO THE LABOR  
DEPARTMENT BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill specifies that the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) may make recommendations to the governor and labor commissioner for appointments of members and alternate members, respectively, to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration. By law, the governor appoints members to the board. Current law does not limit who may make recommendations for these appointments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2008

**BACKGROUND*****Board of Mediation and Arbitration***

The board is the agency empowered by state law to provide mediation and arbitration services for the parties to union contracts under either state or municipal collective bargaining laws. It administers binding arbitration under the municipal and state employee relations laws.

***Legislative History***

The Labor and Public Employees Committee referred the original bill the Government Administration and Elections Committee, which voted it out with substitute language on March 10. The new bill indicates CCM “may” make recommendations, rather than “have the right to” make recommendations, as stated in the original.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 10 Nay 1 (02/28/2008)

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/10/2008)